

From: Radeke, Donald E.
To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am a computer programmer, a MS software user, a MS stock owner (only 300 shares), and a tax payer. I think other companies often provide better software than MS. As a consumer, however, I believe MS has provided quality products at a fair price in a highly competitive marketplace.

I also think it unfortunate that our federal government and several state governments have spent so much time and money in an attempt to extort money from a company with money. Much of what has happened in the MS Case has been politically motivated which the Clinton administration was only too happy to pursue because MS competitors gave generously. And, MS was not a big contributor to either political party. But just look at their cash position! MS is a lucrative target for the lawyers and others who want to take money away from anyone who has it, even though they earned it through hard work.

Stop the litigation nonsense and maybe the business climate will change so the US economy will get back on track. When did business confidence begin to slide? And when was the first suit against MS made?